RG104 Entry 235

Volume 483

January 4, 1926 – June 28, 1930

Letters Sent to

Philadelphia Mint

Press copies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

Text quality ranges from good to extremely faint. Tight binding also limits visability of the left side of some documents. Pages were scanned using a white back-up sheet to improve legibility.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF
THE MINT

Records of the Bureau of the
Mint
Correspondence

LETTERS SENT, 1873-1917

Vol. 483 of 600
NC-152, Entry 235

ny. & Feby. 1926

States Mint,

PHILADELPHIA,

PA.

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January 4, 1926.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Philadelph , Pa.

[illegible] bills covering transportation charges on items listed [illegible] to the General Accounting Office for settle- [illegible] year 1926 contingent appropriation:

				Shipment	Charges
Amer. Railway Express.	Wash. D.C.	1925 10/30	Philadelphia	1 case chalk	$1.17

Respectfully,

[illegible] of the Mint.

o.k.

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Jan. 6, 1926.

Superintendent of the Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing herewith one dollar, in payment for the Coolidge Medal which was received this morning.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

January 6, 1926.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,

H/12/16097	11/28/25	Chicago, Ill.	$25,000.00	$25,000.00	$946.52
H/12/16095	11/19/25	Cincinnati, Ohio		5,000.00	115.43

January 6, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Requisition has been approved for advance to you the following to meet the expenses of your institution during the fiscal year 1926.

Salaries and Wages, Mint at Philadelphia, 1926 . .	$ 45,000.00
Contingent Expenses, Mint at Philadelphia, 1926 . .	8,000.00
Freight on Bullion and Coin, Mints and Assay Offices, 1926 . . .	300.00
Total	53,300.00

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

P.

Jan. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing formal order for medal for the Narcotic and National Prohibition Unit of the Internal Revenue Service. The specimen strike of eagle together with photograph of design are inclosed with appropriate voucher upon which accounts are to be rendered by you.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the recommendation contained in your letter of Jan. 5th, you are authorized to accept the proposal of the Charles Bond Company to supply your mint with two barrels of "Peerless" mould compound at 17½¢ per pound, this being the lower of two bids received.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the recommendation contained in your letter of Jan. 5th, you are authorized to accept the proposal of James E. Tague & Company to supply your mint with 2,000 feet of first-common, White pine lumber, 1" x 12", surfaced on four sides, at $75.00 per thousand feet, this being the lowest of three bids received.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

January 6, 1925.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am enclosing an order for medals which is self explanatory, together with a money order for $30.75 to cover the cost of the same. There is a probability that the Librarian will desire cases for the medals, and I would be glad to have you forward a specimen of the inexpensive case, with advice to Mr. Green as to the price, when the medals are sent.

Respectfully,

R. J. GRANT
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 7, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing herewith Form 104b, "Bullion Deposits and Modes of Payments"; which has been recently sent to this bureau. A package has also been received, and is today being forwarded to you by registered mail. Mr. Mayer has been advised of this reference.

Respectfully

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 7, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am forwarding herewith a package delivered by the Express Company to this office from R. E. Graber. No letter of advice accompanied same. Mr. Graber has been informed that the package is being sent to you.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

112

January 7, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith find one copy of your regular account current for the month of November, for amendment as per pencil notations; the amounts received as refunds on carboys returned should be included on the lines pertaining to the appropriations affected. One copy of the schedule of collections is also returned for like amendment.

There appears to be a discrepancy of $1,000 in the "Analysis of balance due United States" on reverse of regular account current, either in the amount of outstanding checks or in the preceding item. The net balance on deposit with the Treasurer is evidently correct.

Amendment has been made in this office on the credit side of the "Cash" account of your bullion account current, by which the item of $22.96 has been transferred to the printed line immediately preceding the line "Balance on hand", and the amount stated as "Deposit in minor metal checking account - value of alloy for minor coin recoinage, (September)". This transaction was not a "Transfer to other Treasury office" (see indented subhead) reducing your liability to the United States, as indicated by the entry as submitted, but a deposit of funds to the credit of your checking account.

Reference is made to public voucher #257 in favor of Edgar T. Wards Sons Co., which includes a purchase of 240 lbs. of cold rolled steel, 1½" in diameter, at $4.05 per cwt. The bid of Horace T. Potts, & Co., was at the same rate on this item, but provided a discount of 2% for cash payment, which would have made a saving to the Government of 19¢.

According to the absence and efficiency reports for the month of October, Fred F. Medelt, ingot roller at $5.84 per diem, was absent ½ hour without pay; no deduction appears to have been made for this on payroll. Absence without pay in October was reported for A. J. Troyer, ingot roller at $5.84 per diem, of 1 day, 7 3/4 hours; payroll for first half of October carries deduction for 6/8 day, and for the second half, deduction for 1 3/16 days, leaving an apparent absence without pay of ½ hour, for which no deduction was made.

Philadelphia, continued.-

On payroll for first half of November, Louis Rusgnan, helper at $5.36 per diem, was credited with 1 day overtime, for which he was paid $8.04, which is equivalent to 1 4/8 days overtime. On the same payroll, Mark R. Strain, helper at $5.36 per diem, is credited with 3 days overtime, but was paid $18.76, equivalent to 3 4/8 days overtime. The payroll shows erasure in the overtime column, where the original entry apparently was 2 4/8 days, a "3" having been rewritten over the "4" of the fraction, the final record thus appearing as 3 days overtime. On the payroll for the first half of November, absence without pay of the following per annum employees was apparently deducted on the basis of 8 hours per diem instead of 7 hours, giving short deduction of 19¢ for 3 hours in the case of John J. Carey, assistant bookkeeper at $2480 per annum, and in the case of Annie Tibbils, clerk at $1680 per annum, 6¢ for 1 hour.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

tms
Ef

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Jan. 7, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am enclosing to you a report from the Denver Mint covering the coinage dies for the calendar year 1925. A duplicate has been retained in this bureau.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 9, 1926.

Superintendent. United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing copies of reports of 1925 dies condemned and defaced, and reserved dies for the calendar year 1926 from the mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Inclosure.

Jan. 11, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing $1.00 to cover the cost of the Wilson medal, received today.

Thank you for attending to this matter.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Inclosure.

Jan. 13, 1925.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing a specimen coin received from the International Engineering Company and also an inclosure received from that firm relative to the Siamese coin. Will you please examine same, and advise me by telephone tomorrow if we are correct in our statement that the master dies now on hand at the mint can be used for this coinage. Please return the specimen coin and the inclosure when confirming your telephone communication. I would appreciate it if you would call me as soon as you receive this, so that we can determine this matter, as the International Company desires to cable to Siam tomorrow.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 16, 1926.

To All Institutions:

During the months October-December inclusive, some of the mints and assay offices have been rendering monthly statistical reports of gold and silver bullion and coin receipts on forms 61, 61A, 474A, and 637, evidently assuming that since the accounts current are now rendered monthly, these statistical reports should also be rendered monthly. It is requested that reports on these forms be made quarterly, as in the past, and that the reports for the October-December quarter be made as heretofore.

It is also requested that the monthly report in letter form, of gold and silver receipts (by fine ounces) as follows:

Unrefined domestic gold bullion
" " silver "
" foreign silver "
Foreign silver coin,

be forwarded each month, not later than the 10th, in order that the required data may serve the purpose for which requested.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F:f

Jan. 19, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing a list of the Assay Commission appointed by the President under date of Jan. 19th.

Will you please forward to the Bureau a list of the assay coins reserved during 1925, so that we can check the records at the Bureau and bring them into agreement with yours.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Inclosure.

Jan. 20, 1926.

To All Institutions;

A supply of form 2500, U. S. Civil Service Commission, has today been forwarded to you. It is intended that each employee should fill out one of these cards, and when completed, the cards should be returned to this Bureau. I am inclosing sheets giving instructions for filling out the forms, and have to request that you will expedite the return of these cards as they have just reached this Bureau today, and they are now past due at the Secretary's Office.

The Bureau will appreciate it if you will make a special effort to have these cards returned promptly. Please give the work of filling out the cards precedence over any other until they are returned to the Bureau.

Respectfully.

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith find voucher rendered by Marsh & McLennan, in amount $12.09, for registered mail insurance charges on minor coin shipped during December. The rate of 4 7/8¢ per $1,000 is correct, but verification of amounts shipped, and computation should be made prior to payment of the voucher from the profits on minor coinage.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

F:f
Inc:

Jan. 20, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am returning the sample of a scale ticket inclosed in your letter of Jan. 19th with the authority to procure 2,000 of them at $3.30 per thousand, the purchase to be made from the Fairbanks Company, it being understood that the cards cannot be procured from anyone else.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Inclosure.

Jan. 22, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing $1.00 for which please forward to the Bureau a medal of Secretary Mellon in bronze.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 23, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the recommendation contained in your letter of Jan. 22nd, you are authorized to accept the proposal from Streeter, Hackney & Co., of Johnstown, N. Y., to furnish 50 dozen pairs of reversible buckskin mittens for use in the rolling room at $11.00 per dozen pairs, it being understood that this is the lower of two bids received.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 25, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing the order from the Collector of Customs at St. Louis for platinum weights at the rates indicated in your letter of Jan. 2nd. The Assistant Director of Supply has been advised that the Mint will not be able to meet the requirement of ten day delivery, accepting the order with the understanding that delivery will be made as soon as possible after receipt of the order at the Mint.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 27, 1926.

Superintendent United States Mint
Philadelphia Pa.

Please forward to San Francisco twenty obverse and ten reverse double eagle dies and to Denver ten pairs double eagle dies.

O'Reilly
Acting Director.

Contingent Expenses, Office Director of Mint, 1926.

Jan. 27, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The Secretary of the Treasury has advised this bureau that it will be necessary to coin by June 30, 1926, approximately one hundred million dollars in gold coin. The Secretary desires that ten million in ten dollar gold pieces be coined at Philadelphia, and the balance up to your capacity in double eagles.

The Superintendents of the mints at Denver and San Francisco have been advised that they will be required to assist in this program, and this letter is being written in order that you may consider the subject in view of the commitments for foreign coinage, and with the request that you give the bureau the benefit of your judgment as to what can be done at the Philadelphia Mint without over-time and without additional temporary employees.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 27, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of Jan. 26th inclosing proposals for furnishing luncheons for the Annual Assay Commission. The proposals are returned. The Bureau would find it difficult to reconcile with the requirements of accounting the acceptance of any other than the lowest bid. I, therefore, do not feel free to approve the recommendation that one of the higher bids be accepted.

You may prefer to hold this matter in abeyance until the return of the Director.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 28, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The Bureau apparently has not yet received your report on silver bullion shipped you from the New York Assay Office, December 18, 1925. Please forward same.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

F:f

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 30, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith please find one copy of your regular account current for the month of December, attention invited to the excess of amounts entered in "Collections" column to the credit of the 1926 salaries and wages, and contingent expenses appropriations, over the amounts deposited in the Treasury, which excess amounts are not supported by entries on the Schedule of Collections (also inclosed). The excess amounts in question are $195.00 in the salaries and wages appropriation and $32.50 in the contingent appropriation, total $227.50. They appear to be included in the "Cash" account on reverse of the account current in the item "Services Others, $836.00", and are included in the "Analysis of Balance" as "Cash in Office Safe". If these amounts were actually collected, they should appear on the "Schedule of Collections"; the amounts carried in the columns on right hand side of the Schedule of Collections should always support the several totals appearing in the "Collections" column on face of account current. Please note also that the name of the state is not included in the official titles of the appropriations.

One copy of the special deposit account current is inclosed for amendment in the "Cash Account", to include the $13,000 seigniorage (on reverse).

Please forward schedule of the additional charges collected on gold bars sold during the period July-November inclusive, to support the item of $54.28 before the General Accounting Office.

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter of yesterday advising that copy of invoice covering shipment #3 silver from the New York Assay Office, accompanied the December accounts, amount $70,526.72. This invoice has not been found with the December accounts, nor elsewhere in the office. Please forward a copy of same. In this connection please be advised that notice of receipt of shipments from other institutions should always be forwarded promptly at the time of taking same into your records, in addition to the filing of copy of invoice with the accounts.

Herewith find public voucher #347 in favor of H. T. Potts & Co., in amount $4.76, which voucher lacks the approval of the Superintendent.

Public voucher #344 in favor of Joseph Dixon Crucible Company carries double the quantity of crucibles ordered, on two of the items; explanation of this large excess over the amount ordered should be forwarded to support the voucher. Where more than one order is given on a single submission of proposals a copy of each order should be filed with the voucher.

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Philadelphia, 2

Herewith find what appears to be the originally prepared sheet #15 of payroll for the period November 16-30, 1925, which was later replaced by a corrected page #15.

On payroll for November 16-30, Marie C. Hogan, Selector, at $4.40 per diem, is credited for 6/8th day overtime, but paid for a full day, $4.40, making an apparent overpayment of $1.10.

With reference to the notations on reverse of bullion account current under the heading "Inclosures", please be advised that the item of "Reports , Peru Silver 385-574" has been eliminated, since vouchers (including bullion abstracts) pertaining to the accounts for bullion and metals received in trust for foreign governments as well as the foreign metals statements, remain in this office instead of being forwarded to the General Accounting Office. The following item has been added under the heading "Inclosures", - "Schedule Prepaid Bullion".

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

F:f
inc.

Jan. 30, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please forward to the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Denver, Colorado, six double eagle collars. The Superintendent requests that the collars be forwarded as early as possible.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Feb. 1, 1922.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of Jan. 30th inclosing twelve foreign coins sent to the Mint by Mr. John Fulsher of the battleship "Oregon". The coins have today been transmitted to the National Museum to be included in the numismatic collection of the Mint now lent to the Museum.

The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution will no doubt make appropriate acknowledgment to Mr. Fulsher.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

Feb. 1, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of Jan. 30th inclosing twelve foreign coins sent to the Mint by Mr. John Felsher of the battleship "Oregon". The coins have today been transmitted to the National Museum to be included in the numismatic collection of the Mint now lent to the Museum.

The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution will no doubt make appropriate acknowledgment to Mr. Felsher.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Feb. 1, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please accept the very earnest thanks of this Bureau for the extraordinary effort you made in forwarding so promptly the personnel cards together with the statements required.

The Bureau realizes the immense amount of work this has entailed, and regrets that owing to circumstances over which we had no control the work had to be done under such forced pressure, due to the delay in receiving the cards here.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

February 3, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I would be pleased to have you prepare and transmit to the Bureau answer to the following question submitted by the British Government:

"Were any medals struck at the mint or mints during 1925? If so give particulars as to numbers, metals, etc."

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

H:f
F

February 4, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Requisition has been approved for advance to you the following to meet the expenses of your institution during the fiscal year 1926.

Salaries and Wages, Mint at Phila., 1926	$45,000.00
Contingent Expenses, Mint at Phila., 1926	10,000.00
Freight on Bullion and Coin, Mints and Assay Offices, 1926	100.00

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

P
T

Feb. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In response to your recommendation of Feb. 5th, you are authorized to accept the proposal of Hagy Brothers, Inc. to supply the Mint at Philadelphia with 2,000 pounds of near white rags at 9 5/8 cents per pound, this being the lowest of three proposals received.

It is understood that this price is about 3 cents per pound lower than the contract price on white rags in the General Supply Committee's contract.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

Feb. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You are authorized to accept the proposal of Miller, Bain, Beyer & Co. to supply the Mint with 10,000 yards of 36 inch muslin at the rate of $0.1224 per yard.

It is understood that after an examination of the samples submitted and a comparison of the different widths of materials, you regard the muslin offered by Miller, Bain, Beyer & Co. the best for the purpose and also the most economical, since the lower priced muslin would be too thin for money bags, and, therefore, entirely unsuitable for the purposes of the Mint.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

o.P

February 8, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia., Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 3rd instant relative to accounts for the month of December 1925, has been received.

Voucher 344 is enclosed with request that notation be made as to method of procurement and justification for duplicated quantities on two of the items. When this procedure is followed sufficient information should be present with the voucher to justify failure to invite new proposals, in order to avoid possible disallowance by the General Accounting Office.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F.

Feb. 9, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am forwarding you today by registered mail a silver chloride bar weighing 32.93 ounces.

In exchange please return granulated proof silver, (shot form), to this Office.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

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Feb. 9, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Responding to your request of Feb. 8th, you are authorized to accept the proposal from McIlvaine Brothers, Inc. to supply the Mint with 5 barrels, (approximately 1250 pounds), of powdered soap bark at 11½¢ per pound, this being the lowest of three bids received.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Feb. 9, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The Secretary wishes to be advised of the number of employees on your rolls June 30, 1925, who are subject to retirement at the age of sixty-five and those subject to retirement at the age of seventy together with the number not subject to deductions on account of retirement.

Please telephone this information as soon as possible after receipt of this letter.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Feb. 10, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

If you have received the invoice to which the inclosed letter pertains, will you please advise the Carroll Electric Co. If you have not received the invoice, please advise the Bureau.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

February 13, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Inclosed herewith please find Government Bill of Lading No. T532069 covering shipment of nested baskets from Elsmere, Del. to Philadelphia, Pa.

Attention is invited to the discrepancy of weight of this shipment as reported on "Consignee's certificate of delivery", and as given in the weight column. Kindly return this voucher to the Bureau as promptly as convenient, with proper correction as to weight.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

f

February 15, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of December 3, 1925, advising that bill of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey, covering transportation of mint sweeps to Newark, April 29, 1925, in amount $124.93, had been sent to the General Accounting Office for settlement. The amount of this bill should have been $124.73, a difference of 20¢. In this connection reference is made to your December report of appropriation transactions, which includes the amount of the above-mentioned bill as an encumbrance liquidated without local cash payment, while the amount reported as liquidated thereby was $124.95, a difference of 2¢. In considering this item with the report forwarded by you October 30, 1925, of encumbrances unliquidated as at September 30, and in connection with your October report of encumbrances liquidated, it is noted that if the item first mentioned above is treated as $124.73, the 1925 appropriation encumbrances will have been wholly liquidated, thus closing out that year's transactions under the contingent appropriation. Please advise the Bureau whether the 1925 contingent appropriation encumbrances have not all been liquidated, detailing such amounts as remained unliquidated on December 31, 1925.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F:f

February 16, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Herewith I am returning your letter of February 13th addressed to the Comptroller General through this office with the suggestion that it be modified somewhat along the following lines.

Voucher #746, favor of Street, Hackney & Co., for buck skin gloves and mittens. The conditions surrounding the use of gloves and mittens incident to the handling of precious metals in minting operations are similar in all respects to the conditions surrounding the use of aprons and sleeves in such operations. Reference is made to 3 Comp. Gen. 784, wherein was considered the question of use of aprons and sleeves and their procurement from mint service appropriations authorized.

Voucher #750, favor John R. Rowand, for charcoal. The contract controlling this purchase provides that the contractor "agrees to furnish and deliver" * * * "all supplies" of the articles named "as may be required" during the fiscal year. It will be noted that this wording differs from that quoted in the suspension. The charcoal was required during the fiscal year 1925, it having been ordered in May; the delay in delivery does not appear to be a material factor.

Voucher #49, favor of O. F. Zurn Co., and vouchers #52 and #75 favor of Edward Connor. A recent decision of the Comptroller General dated January 30, 1926, requires that contracts when deposited in the General Accounting Office should be accompanied always by an abstract of all bids received or by the bids themselves. Doubtless this is the "showing" contemplated by the General Accounting Office in their explanation of the suspensions in question where they state that "an affirmative showing that the lowest bid was accepted", etc., is required.

Accounting difference of $6,000 in the appropriation Contingent Expenses, Public Monies, 1926. This is due to the fact that the notice was not received by the Philadelphia Mint that these monies had been advanced until October 2, 1925. The amounts were taken into the accounts as of that date.

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Suerpintendent,
U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
Continued:-

Please forward an amended letter through this office; also forward a carbon copy of same for our files, and follow this procedure in future similar cases.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F:f

P. S. Supplementing the data on first page of this letter concerning the filing of received bids with contracts, it should be noted that where the lowest bid is not accepted reasons (not mere statements) must accompany the contract convincingly establishing the fact of advantage to the Government in accepting the higher bid.

February 17, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Inclosed herewith please find travel voucher of James Lewis Howe incident to his attendance upon the Annual Assay Commission at your mint recently. Attention is invited to the deduction of notarial fees, 25¢, the voucher being approved for net amount of $48.07.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F
inc:

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February 17, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of 32.93 ounces fine silver, (shot form), forwarded with your letter of February 15th.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

February 18, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter of February 17, 1926, addressed to the Comptroller General concerning suspensions in your accounts. Am somewhat doubtful concerning the paragraph pertaining to charcoal. It is practically certain that if the explanation as originally given had gone to the General Accounting Office, they would have charged the expenditure for charcoal to the appropriation for the current year and credited the amount back to the appropriation for the prior year. It is noted that in your letter of yesterday the wording is somewhat different from that suggested in Bureau letter. It is suggested that if you are not prepared to say that the charcoal was required during the fiscal year 1925 (which seems to be a justified inference from the fact that it was ordered - presumably in usual quantities - in May) the wording of the last sentence in the Bureau's suggested paragraph be made to read as follows: "The charcoal was ordered May 12th; the delay in delivery does not appear to be a material factor". - and that otherwise the paragraph be made to read the same as that suggested by the Bureau. Particular attention should be given to the quoted excerpts from the contract, which were incorrectly stated in your letter of yesterday. If a copy of the order of May 12th did not accompany the vouchers to the General Accounting Office they may call for it as a result of the statement in your explanation.

With regard to the synopses of bids on contracts, it is suggested that each synopsis be furnished on a separate sheet in order that it may be filed with the contract to which it pertains. Explanation should also accompany contracts for charcoal and laundering, of the reasons for accepting other than the lowest bids. It is also suggested that the synopses of bids pertaining to contracts on which suspensions have not been made be forwarded with a separate letter, asking that they be filed with the contracts to which they pertain.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F;f
inc;

February 18, 1926.

To All Mint Service Institutions:

The Comptroller General has recently made disallowances in the accounts of one of the Mint Service institutions for the reasons given below. This is brought to your attention for guidance in making future purchases, and in supporting vouchers in payment thereof with information that will properly clear them when examined in the General Accounting Office.

Requesting bids for articles of a particular make, there appearing nothing to show that such make only could satisfy the requirements of the Government, is not in compliance with the requirements of Sec. 3709, R. S as to the procuring of competitive bids. For example, requesting bids for "Garlock" packing or "Yale" locks or "Pillsbury's Best" flour. The proposals should be worded to clearly indicate the quality of the materials required, without specifying a particular make.

Another disallowance was made for the reason that "the acceptance of other than the lowest bid is not authorized simply because the supplies or material offered are of a better quality than those offered by the lowest bidder unless quality was made the determining factor in the acceptance or rejection of the bids and it was so stated i. e., the proposals specifying the quality required for Government needs in order that all bidders may have equal opportunity to offer supplies or materials which meet the specifications. Acceptance of other than the lowest bid may be authorized where the quality offered by the lowest bidder did not meet the requirements as specified". Where other than the lowest bid is accepted the reasons why the materials offered on the rejected bids would not meet the Government's requirements must be convincingly presented to insure the Comptroller's allowance of the expenditure.

The Comptroller General has also recently required that contracts (whether for annual supplies or for single purchases) must be accompanied always by an abstract of all bids received, or by the bids themselves.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

F:f

February 20, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

This Bureau has for acknowledgment your letter of February 19th containing revised figures on the quotations to the Treasury Department on bags number 3 and number 4, number 3 to be reduced from 12¢ to 11¢ each, and number 4 from 7¢ to 6¢ each.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

cmk

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February 23, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please forward to the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco twenty pairs of double eagle dies and twenty obverse and fifteen reverse standard dollar dies.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 483

February 26, 1926.

Superintendent
United States Mint
Philadelphia Pennsylvania

State Department advises Peruvian Ambassador accepts coinage terms understanding you purchase metal and kegs their account. Approval manner expressing date will follow.

O'Reilly
Acting Director

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

RG104 E-235 Vol 483

February 26, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

This letter will confirm the telegram forwarded to you today relative to the Peruvian coinage. The State Department has advised the Bureau that your inquiry as to the manner of expressing the date on the coins is before the Peruvian Embassy and the Ambassador will be urged to make a prompt reply in order that you may proceed with the preparation of the die. It is hoped that some information on this subject will be ready for you by tomorrow. As indicated in the telegram, the Peruvian Ambassador accepts the terms under which the proposed coinage is to be executed, and understands that you will cooperate with the agent named by the Peruvian Government to negotiate with you in regard to this coinage in the matter of purchasing the metal and the kegs.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am inclosing the specimen 20 quetzales piece forwarded by you for inspection. The Minister of Guatemala called at the Bureau today and stated that he is entirely satisfied with the coin with the understanding that the milled edge will be perfected as stated in your letter. The Minister has promised to write a formal letter approving the design and requesting that the coinage be executed under the terms stated in your letter of December 1, 1925. The Minister states that the tolerance as to weight is to be the same as that of our coins.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of February 26, 1926, enclosing check dated March 24, 1924, in favor of David R. Highley for $7.58 wages due at date of death, March 1, 1924, is today being forwarded with enclosures to the General Accounting Office.

In this connection attention is invited to General Accounting Office Bulletin #3 dated May 19,1923, published by the Under Secretary of the Treasury May 28, 1923, copy of which was forwarded you at that time, giving "Procedure for Safeguarding Undelivered Checks" and directing that those remaining on hand more than three full months should be forwarded the first of each quarter to the Check Accounting Division of the General Accounting Office. Such disposition of undelivered checks is also directed in paragraph 6 of Treasury Department Circular dated January 30, 1926, copy of which was mailed you February 18, 1926.

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Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

June 28, 1930.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

This letter will be authority for you to purchase from The W. D. Campbell Company, for use in your institution, the following office desks:

1 flat top, 60" long, single, 34" wide, quartered oak, Item #9524-a-3-aa, at $41.55, f.o.b. point of shipment.

1 roll top, 60" long, 34" wide, quartered oak, Item #9524-c-1-aa, at $71.00, f.o.b. point of shipment.

These items are being take from the General Supply Committee schedule.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

OR

June 28, 1930.

Sir:

I am forwarding herewith a copy of letter received by this Bureau from the office of the Secretary relative to the acceptance of Mexican gold from the Union State Bank and Trust Company, Laredo, Texas, in quantities of less than $100. This letter is being sent for your guidance and appropriate action.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant;
Director of the Mint.

Encl.

The Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.